

**BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION/REMEDIAL SECTION  
POLICY  
CONSIDERATIONS FOR REMEDIAL STANDARDS**

**BER POLICY # BER-RS-033**

**DATE:** May, 1995

**PAGES:** 2

- **Ground Water Cleanup** - For drinking water aquifers, federally promulgated Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) or other applicable risk based standards are used. However, if MCLs do not exist for a site the Kansas Action Levels (guidelines) and federal secondary standards may be considered. Removal Action Levels (RALs) used to identify immediate threat to impacted drinking water wells are also available.

For non-drinking water aquifers or potential drinking water aquifers with no documented targets, Alternate Cleanup Levels (ACLs) may be used based on site-specific risk assessment information.

- **Soil Cleanup** - The following three approaches are acceptable in addressing a contaminated site:
  1. **Interim Remedial Guidelines** - A KDHE draft guidance document titled, "Interim Remedial Guidelines (IRGs) for Soils" establishes interim soil remedial guidelines for contaminated soils that are chemical-specific, risk-based and protective of human health and the environment. A site may be addressed using IRGs in conjunction with the Risk Management section of the IRG document. The IRGs are: protective of human health, technically defensible based on the most current scientific data, and practical. Other approved risk-based levels will be considered, if there is no IRG for a specific constituent.
  2. **Background** - In some cases it may be necessary to clean up contamination to background concentrations. For example if background concentrations at a site are greater than the IRGs, then the project manager may determine that cleanup to background is the most practicable and cost effective alternative.
  3. **Site-Specific Risk Assessment** - A site-specific risk assessment of an individual site may be developed to demonstrate that (1) ground water will not be adversely affected due to the residual concentration in the soil and (2) the dermal contact, ingestion and inhalation exposure pathways to contaminated soils do not pose a health risk using site-specific conditions. Ecological risks must also be considered if identified.

- **Other Considerations** - When determining remedial alternatives (cleanup) for a contaminated site the following criteria must be addressed:

Overall protection of human health and environment;  
Cost effectiveness;  
Compliance with federal and state requirements;  
Long-term effectiveness and permanence;  
Overall reduction of toxicity, mobility and volume of contamination;  
Short-term effectiveness;  
Implementability and feasibility; and  
Community acceptance.